

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 05947 01 OF 02 251428Z
ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ARA-10 EA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-05
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TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1244
INFO AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
AMEMBASSY BERLIN
AMEMBASSY BUDAPEST
USINT HAVANA
AMCONSUL HONG KONG
AMEMBASSY MADRID
AMEMBASSY MOSCOW
AMCONSUL MUNICH
AMEMBASSY PARIS
USLO PEKING
AMEMBASSY PRAGUE
AMEMBASSY ROME
AMEMBASSY SOFIA
USMISSION USBERLIN
USMISSION USNATO
AMEMBASSY VIENTIANE
AMEMBASSY WARSAW

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 BUCHAREST 5947

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: PINT, RO
SUBJECT: ROMANIAN NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS

1. SUMMARY. ROMANIA'S NATIONAL DAY CELEBRATIONS AGUSUT 22-24
COMMEMORATING 34TH ANNIVERSARY OF ITS "LIBERATION" FROM
FASCISM WERE ROUTINE AND, IN WAKE OF TUMULTOUS WELCOME
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PAGE 02 BUCAR 05947 01 OF 02 251428Z

ACCORDED HUA KUO-FENG EXACTLY ONE WEEK BEFORE, ALMOST BOUND TO
BE ANTI-CLIMACTIC. SPAIN'S SANTIAGO CARRILLO AND ITALY'S
LUIGI LONGO LED LIST OF USUAL CROSS-SECTION OF PARTY AND
THIRD WORLD REPRESENTATIVES IN ATTENDANCE. SOVIET AND
CHINESE MESSAGES OF CONGRATULATIONS REFLECT EVOLUTION OF
RELATIONSHIPS SINCE LAST YEAR'S ANNIVERSARY. END SUMMARY.

2. OPENING EVENT WAS "FESTIVE PERFORMANCE" LATE AFTERNOON OF AUGUST 22, FOLLOWED BY CENTRAL COMMITTEE RECEPTION IN EVENING. MOST NOTABLE ASPECT OF BOTH WAS PLACE OF HONOR ACCORDED PCE CHIEF SANTIAGO CARRILLO, WHO ENTERED ON BOTH OCCASIONS IN COMPANY OF OLD FRIEND CEAUSESCU AND STOOD ON PRESIDENT'S RIGHT DURING TOASTS. PRIME MINISTER MANESCU WAS PROMINENT AGAIN THIS YEAR, ALTHOUGH HE GAVE WAY AS PRINCIPAL SPEECH-MAKER TO PARTY ELDER STEFAN VOITEC. LATTER'S ADDRESS AT EARLIER EVENT WAS STRICTLY ROUTINE AND WORTHY OF NOTE ONLY FOR CURIOUS ADDITION (ALSO IN SEVERAL NEWSPAPER ITEMS) OF "ANTI-IMPERIALIST" IN CUSTOMARY TERMINOLOGY DESCRIBING 1944 ("NATIONAL ANTI-FASCIST AND ANTI-IMPERIALIST ARMED INSURRECTION") EVENTS AS RECAST BY ROMANIA'S COMMUNISTS.

3. PCI ELDER LUIGI LONGO JOINED CARRILLO AT HEAD OF LIST OF FOREIGN GUESTS IN REVIEWING STANDS FOR TWO-AND-HALF HOUR MARCK-PAST AUGUST 23. WORKERS, PATRIOTIC GUARDS, YOUTH, ATHLETES AND OTHER ORGANIZED GROUPS WERE NOTABLY UNENTHUSIASTIC AT STARTING POINT, BUT EXHORTATIONS FROM PARTY ACTIVITIES BROUGHT FORTH VOCAL CHORUSES OF CUSTOMARY SLOGANS AND SALUTES FOR BENEFIT OF SELECT COMPANY PRIVILEGED TO WITNESS THE NOT-FOR-THE-PUBLIC EVENT. YUGOSLAVS WERE WELL REPRESENTED AND HIGH ON LISTING OF FOREIGN GUESTS, AHEAD OF I. I. JEREMOV, SOVIET DEPUTY MINISTER FOR CONSTRUCTION INDUSTRY AND YANG FU-CHEN (PHONETIC), LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 03 BUCAR 05947 01 OF 02 251428Z

CANDIDATE MEMBER OF PRC CENTRAL COMMITTEE AND VICE CHAIRMAN OF SHANGHAI REVOLUTIONARY COMMITTEE. OTHER FOREIGN GUESTS INCLUDED REPRESENTATIVES OF WEST EUROPEAN, EAST EUROPEAN AND LATIN AMERICAN COMMUNIST PARTIES, AND SEVERAL EUROPEAN SOCIALIST PARTIES AND THIRD WORLD COUNTRIES, AS WELL AS VISITING VICE PRESIDENT OF LIBERIA AND PORTUGUESE AIR FORCE COMMANDER. IN APPARENT INNOVATION, SEVERAL LOCAL DELEGATIONS FROM EACH OF THE FOUR NEIGHBORING COUNTRIES WERE PRESENT AT VARIOUS COUNTY CELEBRATIONS.

4. CONGRATULATORY MESSAGES ARE ARRANGED IN WHAT HAS COME TO BE OVER PAST YEAR MORE-OR-LESS STANDARD FORMAT, WITH SOVIETS, CHINESE AND YUGOSLAVS HEADING COLUMNS OF COMMUNIST STATES AND U.S. HEADING ADJACENT COLUMN OF NON-COMMUNIST STATES: LEAD PAGE LAST YEAR WAS COMPLETELY DEVOTED TO RULING PARTIES, WITH U.S. HEADING A COLUMN ON REVERSE PAGE. (U.S. IS FOLLOWED BY EGYPT, WITH ISRAEL CLOSING OUT COLUMN ON REVERSE PAGE.) CHINESE, AND ESPECIALLY SOVIET, MESSAGES MAKE INTERESTING COMPARISON WITH THOSE OF LAST YEAR. FRIENDLY CHINESE MESSAGE OF 1977 SPOKE OF SINO-ROMANIAN FRIENDSHIP AND SOLIDARITY, BUT GAVE DEVELOPMENT OF RELATIONS FUTURE CAST. 1978 MESSAGE REFLECTS CONSUMMATION:

"CHINA AND ROMANIA ARE FRIENDLY SOCIALIST COUNTRIES," WHICH WISH EACH OTHER WELL. RECIPROCAL VISITS ARE CITED AS GIVING IMPETUS TO SURE AND CERTAIN CONTINUED DEVELOPMENT OF THIS RELATIONSHIP.

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PAGE 01 BUCAR 05947 02 OF 02 251439Z
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5. SOVIET MESSAGE IS NOTABLE FOR TOTAL ABSENCE OF FELICITOUS PHRASES OF FRIENDSHIP. THERE IS NO MENTION AS THERE WAS A YEAR AGO OF SOVIET PRIDE IN ROMANIAN ACHIEVEMENTS, NO "DAR COMRADES", NO "WARM SALUTES AND BEST WISHES" FOR NEW SUCCESSES IN BUILDING SOCIALISM AND IN THE "COMMON STRUGGLE". INSTEAD, 1978 MESSAGE VERY POINTEDLY REMINDS ROMANIANS TO WHOM THEY SUPPOSEDLY OWE LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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PAGE 02 BUCAR 05947 02 OF 02 251439Z

THEIR PAST SUCCESSES AND OF THEIR CONTINUING COMMITMENTS, MENTIONING BOTH THE TREATY OF FIRENDSHIP, COOPERATION AND MUTUAL ASSISTANCE AND THE SOVIET-ROMANIAN DECLARATION OF 1976 IN ADDITION TO THE WARSAW PACT AND COMECON. CONCLUSION THIS YEAR IS NOT UP-BEAT, BUT POINTED: "WE EXPRESS THE FIRM CONVICTION THAT SOVIET-ROMANIAN FRIENDSHIP WILL SUCCESSFULLY DEVELOP AND STRENGTHEN IN THE FUTURE ON THE BASIS OF MARXIST-LENINIST PRICIPLES AND PROLETARIAN INTERNATIONALISM..."

6. OTHER EAST EUROPEANS EXPECTEDLY ECHOED SOVIET LINE; WITH BULGARIANS, CZECHS AND EAST GERMANS EMPHASIZING SOVIET PARAMOUNTCY. FRIENDLY HUNGARIAN MESSAGE IS INTERESTING FOR ITS REFERENCE TO UNDERSTANDING ACHIEVED LAST YEAR AT KADAR-CEAUSESCU MEETINGS ON MAKING POSSIBLE SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENT OF COOPERATION BETWEEN TWO COUNTRIES, FIRENDSHIP BETWEEN TWO PEOPLES, AND DIRECT CONTACTS IN ALL SPHERES OF ACTIVITY. ALBANIAN MESSAGE IS STRICTLY GOVERNMENT-TO-GOVERNMENT. WE ARE PUZZLED BY ABSENCE FROM SCINTEIA BOTH ON AUGUST 23 AND 25 OF MESSAGE FROM POLES, AND ASSUME IT IS DUE MERELY TO SOME SNAFU. SIMILARLY, WE ATTACHE NO SIGNIFICANCE OTHER THAN INEFFICIENCY TO ABSENCE TO DATE OF MESSAGES FROM KAMPUCHEANS AND LAOTIANS. POSSIBLY IN REALM OF INTENTIONAL SLIGHT IS ABSENCE SO FAR OF ANY MESSAGE FROM FIDEL CASTRO. AGGREY

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